### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

A Green Step Ahead: A Workshop for Municipalities Considering Adopting the Stretch Code

March 16, 2010



Northampton Energy and Sustainability Commission

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

The Northampton Energy and Sustainability Commission would like to extend a special "Thank You" to the following individuals:

Jim Barry, Department of Energy Resources (DOER)

Mark Price, Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

Dan Hellyer, Town of East Longmeadow

Delbert Smith Jr., Consulting Engineering Services (CES), Inc.

2

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Introduction, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

3

# Sustainable Northampton Plan

- Goal: Reduce community's and City's energy demand and natural resource consumption
- Goal: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Specified Action: petition the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the right to adopt a code with a stronger energy efficiency component than the standard building code.
    - Adoption of the stretch code would have the same effect.

4

# **Green Communities Act**

- Eligibility criteria are compatible with City's energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals
- Opens up grant opportunities from annual \$7 million Green Community grant monies, for example:
- Efficiency improvements or renewable energy for City buildings
- City support for higher efficiency in new construction and energy retrofits in residential and commercial buildings
- Other applications that meet state energy reduction goals

5

# **City Actions**

- Mayor Higgins commits City to becoming a Green Community and the Northampton Energy and Sustainability Commission (NESC) develops a Green Community Action Plan that includes:
- Building Inspector, NESC, and other City staff investigate the requirements and costs associated with adoption of stretch code
- Informal education/outreach to interested persons
- Hold informational public presentation to answer City Council, local builders, property owners questions
- Request City Council hold a Public Hearing and schedule a vote

### New construction and additions past 5 years

- 98 new single family homes: estimated costs \$29,375,000
- 23 new multi family dwellings: estimated costs \$21,175,000
- 28 new commercial buildings: estimated costs \$79,500,000
- 313 additions, both residential and commercial: estimated costs \$36,500,000
- 804 commercial permits: estimated costs \$218,350,000
- 4493 residential permits: estimated costs \$100,260,000
- The estimated costs of nearly half of all residential construction is less than \$10,000

7

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- Introduction. Louis Hasbrouck
- Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

8



Helping Massachusetts Municipalities Create A Greener Energy Future

### **Green Communities Program**

- DOER Programs & Support for Municipalities
  - Energy Audit Program (EAP)
  - Energy Performance Contracting with ESCo Technical Assistance
  - Mass Energy Insight
  - Green Communities Grant, and Technical Assistance Program
  - Outreach; Regional Coordinators

9





Helping Massachusetts Municipalities Create A Greener Energy Future

### **Green Communities Grant Program**

- Provides up to \$10M annually in grants and loans to qualifying communities
- Qualification Criteria
  - 1. Adopt as-of-right siting, in designated locations, for RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D, or RE/AE manufacturing
  - 2. Adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process
  - 3. Establish an energy use baseline inventory with a program to reduce baseline by 20% in 5 years
  - 4. Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles
  - Require all new residential construction > 3000 ft<sup>2</sup> and new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize life-cycle energy costs.

DOER has determined that a municipality can meet the requirement by adopting the BBRS Stretch Code.

10





Helping Massachusetts Municipalities Create A Greener Energy Future

### Stretch Code ...what is it?

- International Codes Council (ICC) publishes the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) every 3 years (2006, 2009....).
- Mass Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) has adopted the IECC 2009 energy code for 2010 <u>along</u> with the <u>optional</u> Stretch code appendix.
- Stretch code uses real-world testing to ensure residential energy savings, and energy modeling to ensure commercial energy savings.



12

Helping Massachusetts Municipalities Create A Greener Energy Future

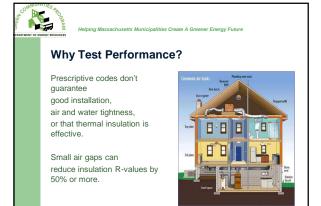
### **Stretch Code for New Residential Construction**

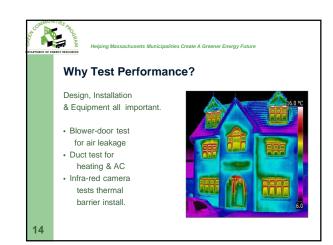
New low-rise (three stories or less) residential buildings shall require a HERS (Home Energy Rating System) index rating as verified by a RESNET (Residential Energy Services Network) certified HERS rater.

- For units equal to or greater than 3,000 sq ft in conditioned floor space, a HERS rating of 65 or less is required.
- For units less than 3,000 sq ft, a HERS rating of 70 or less is required.
- In addition, all new construction shall demonstrate compliance with the Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist.

Performance based, not prescriptive.













17

15

13

### **Energy Efficient Mortgages**

- Subsidized HERS raters

- Energy Efficient Mortgages make it easier for borrowers to qualify for loans to purchase homes that are already energy efficient or to cover the expenses for making cost-effective energy improvements when purchasing or refinancing older existing homes.
  - Conventional Energy Efficient Mortgages
  - FHA Energy Efficient Mortgages
  - VA Energy Efficient Mortgages

Handout available





### **Adoption by Towns and Cities**

- Adoption Process
- Building Official Training
- Municipal Public Hearing
- Vote of City Council
- Timing of Adoption
- Northampton can vote any time - Code change starts on January 1 or July 1
- Base code & Stretch code both in place
- for the first 6 months (concurrency period) Builder can choose EITHER code



Massachusetts Municipalities Create A Greener Energy Future

### Implementation Timeline example

- Example of adoption by Northampton, MA March 29, 2010 Municipal public hearing
- April 12, 2010 Vote of City Council to adopt Stretch Code Northampton is eligible to become a Green Community and can apply for this fiscal year grant.
- Timing of code implementation in Northampton July 1, 2010 Stretch code implemented alongside base code in Northampton
- July 1->Dec 31, 2010 Building permits can comply with either base code (IECC 2009) or Stretch code until Dec 31, 2010
- Jan 1, 2011 Stretch code becomes sole energy code in Northampton- for new building permits

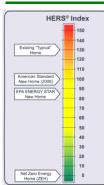
19

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Introduction, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

20

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.



### **Home Energy Rating System** HERS

- "Typical" Existing Homes range from 110-150
- "Typical" Newly Constructed Homes 90-110
- Energy Star Homes
  - 85 and lower
- Stretch Code Homes
  - 85 for renovations < 2,000 sf 80 for renovations ≥ 2,000 sf
- 70 for new homes < 3,000 sf
- 65 for new homes ≥ 3,000 sf
- Zero Energy Homes
  - 0 and lower

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

### **History of HERS**

- 1995 Founders
  - Natl Assoc. of State Energy Officials
  - National mortgage industry
  - Energy Rated Homes of America
- Purpose
  - Promote the market for home energy ratings and EEMs
- Organization Created
  - RESNET Residential Energy Services Network

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

### Recognition

- · Mortgage industry
- Financial industry
- Federal Government for verification:
  - Federal tax credit qualification
  - EPA ENERGY STAR labeled homes
  - U.S. Department of Energy Building America program
- Used for minimum code compliance in 16 states

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

### Who is Involved?

- Rater Providers
- Rater Trainers
- QAD
- Raters
- Testing

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

# HERS Process – Step 1 Proposed Design Modeling

- · Review Building Plans
  - Data collection insulation, windows, wall to window ratio, HVAC efficiency, building orientation, DHW, air and duct leakage
- · Create Model
  - REMRate Software Modeling
  - Standard and Proposed Building
  - US Labs certifies software

25

Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

### HERS Process – Steps 2 and 3 - Onsite Inspections and Finalize Model

- First Inspection
  - Thermal Bypass Checklist
  - Duct tightness test (if applicable)
- Second Inspection (often combined with 1st)
- Insulation
- Final Inspection
- Blower door test
   Finalize Energy Model
  - Based on verified performance
- and equipmentCost



### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Introduction, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

27

### **MA Building Code Overview**

- New Standard Building Code (in effect January 1, 2010)
  - Residential: IECC 2009
  - Commercial: ASHRAE 90.1 2007
- Stretch Code
  - Residential: ~20% better than New Building Code (IECC 2009)
    - 65 for new homes ≥ 3,000 sf
  - 70 for new homes < 3,000 sf
  - 80 for renovations ≥ 2,000 sf
  - 85 for renovations < 2,000 sf</li>
    Commercial: 20% better than ASHRAE 90.1 2007

28

### Stretch Code Requirements

RESIDENTIAL: NEW HOMES

### Residential 3 Stories or less

- New homes 3,000 sf or more requires a Home Energy Rating System (HERS) index of 65 or less.
- New homes below 3,000 sf require a HERS index of 70 or less.
- All new residential construction 3 stories or less requires verification of HERS index rating by a Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) certified HERS rater.
- Must demonstrate compliance with the Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist (in the handout).

29

Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist				_		
Horse Address	Dly_	T Francisco	Bullion	250K		
Terral Proces	Inspection Culdeties	Semire	To Del	Vestigat	80	
Count to farm and Themal bank regressed	Page Name of the Committee of the Commit					
	1.1 Overshipmen Imaginet time					
	12.45; Environce When helbfuskep End	- 0	ŏ	- 0	to	
	Coly & Clinda James Land Hyber:					
	East Practices December 1995 Sept Sept 1		- 0	- 0	Τħ	
					Hö	
2. Victorian	13 Miles to The Harris (1994) (1994) (1994) (1994) (1994)					
Dates Falls of Unconditional Species	Fig. 1 in a control of standards and the standard standard of the standard of the standard of standard of standard of standard standard of the					
		- 0	0		Tσ	
		ä		- 0		
		-	0	-	tσ	
	250x0x Mill				Ηŏ	
Promises     Carathrest and     Edetar System	POSSESSES  An institute of indicated at any account flying insulfing a figure  of institute or indicated at any account flying insulfing a figure  steering, sating the research  of insulfing insulfing a country of insulfing a figure  of insulfing insulfing insulfing a figure insulfing a figure  1.1 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.2 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.3 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.3 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.3 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.4 Insulfing flow from Grapp  1.5 Continemed flow  1.5 Contin		0 c. 80 m	~		
	Openings to anomalisment space are fully under only solid distrings or facing and any removing paper are under with could be found in the related orders and soliding where required.					
		0		- 0	Tο	
	6.2 Pains Studifferentiations					
	(3 ft a 2nd	- ö			۱ĸ	
5. ABPORTS	Personnel  Freshwards  Freshwa					
		0	0	0		
		- 0	0	- 0		
		0	0	-		
		0	0	0		
	1.5 Markup Fin South our payet tribegong	- 0	- 0	- 0	to	
5. Common Walls. Debroom Deadline	PARTIES OF THE PARTIE				-	
Units	Science Statistics  6.1 Common Matibalisms Develops/John	0	0	0	ΙD	

### Stretch Code Requirements

RESIDENTIAL: ADDITIONS

- Prescriptive option must conform to the most recent Energy Star for Homes Prescriptive Builders Option Package (BOP, included in the handout) and be in compliance with The Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist and envelope requirements of IECC 2009.
- Performance option In lieu of prescriptive option and must meet the requirement for new homes.

ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes
Builder Option Prackage Voltes

\*\*TOTAL STAR COLUMN TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

### Stretch Code Requirements

RESIDENTIAL: ALTERATIONS, RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS

- Prescriptive option Alterations, renovations, or repairs that access the building envelope require compliance with the prescriptive option for residential additions. Insulation requirement of R-3.5/inch.
- Performance option In lieu of prescriptive option and must meet the following HERS indexes:
  - o 80 or less for units equal or greater than 2,000 sf
  - o 85 or less for units less than 2,000 sf
  - o Compliance with the Energy Star Thermal Bypass Checklist

31

Residential Compliance Paths				
	IECC 2009	Stretch Code New Construction	Stretch Code Renovations and Additions	
Prescriptive Path	R Value – No Trade Offs U Factor – No Trade Offs Takes thermal bridging into account (REScheck) Total UA Factor – Trade offs allowed between components (REScheck)	N/A	Energy Star for Homes Prescriptive Builders Option Package *Except for heating and cooling equipment and appliances Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bysass Inspection Checklist Envelope insulation meets or exceeds IECC 2009 *Renovations - fully fill existing cavities insulation R=3.5/inch	
Performance Path	Energy usage simulation (REM/Rate) - proposed building's energy usage costs are < "standard reference design" building. Uses prescriptive requirements as a starting point and allows tradeoffs except for HVAC.  Doesn't include lighting	HERS Rating (REM/Rate) ≥ 3.000 sf HERS ≤ 65 < 3.000 sf HERS ≤ 70 Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist	HERS Rating (REM/Rate) ≥ 2,000 af HERS ≤ 80 < 2,000 af HERS ≤ 85 Energy Star Qualified Homes Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist	

### Stretch Code Requirements

COMMERCIAL OVERVIEW

- Only for New Construction over 5,000 sf New Buildings or Building additions
- Performance option for all Buildings
   20% below ASHRAE 90.1-2007
- Prescriptive option for most building types
   5,000 100,000 sf
- Exemptions (comply with base code)

Historic buildings

Commercial buildings smaller than 5,000 sf Special cases smaller than 40,000 sf (supermarkets, laboratories, and warehouses) Commercial renovations and existing interior fit-outs

33

### Stretch Code Requirements

COMMERCIAL: ACCORDING TO BUILDING SIZE/TYPE

### **BUILDING SIZE**

- •Over 100,000 sf Only Performance Option
  - <u>Performance Option</u>: Energy model showing 20% below ASHRAE 90.1-2007
- 5,000-100,000 sf Performance or Prescriptive Options
  -<u>Performance Option</u>: Energy model showing 20% below ASHRAE 90.1-2007

-Prescriptive Option: Based on a revised IECC Ch.5 which is based on utility supported 'Core Performance' program. The prescriptive option includes three options: heating and cooling equipment improvements, improved lighting efficiency, or ≥ 3% of electric needs to come from on-site renewable energy sources.

34

### **Commercial Compliance Summary**

Commercial Compliance Paths		
	New Building Code (IECC 2009)	Stretch Code New Construction
Prescriptive Path	Requirements for  Envolope insulation values  Fenestration Uvalues and SHGC  HVAC System Selection  Lighting power density	Option for buildings 5,000 sf to 100,000 sf Mandatory requirements  -Envelope - Mechanical systems  - Service water heating  - Electrical power and lighting  - 3 Compliance Paths  - Higher efficiency HVAC equipment or  - Further lighting power density reductions or  - On-site renewable energy
Performance Path	Energy usage simulation - proposed building's energy usage costs are « "standard reference design" building Uses prescriptive requirements as a starting point and allows tradeoffs	Performance 20% better than ASHRAE 90.1- 2007 •All buildings > 100,000 sf •Option for buildings 5,000 sf to 100,000 sf

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Introduction, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

### **Building Code Requirements for Stretch Code**

- Building department is first point of contact
  - We will explain the specific requirements of the stretch code and direct people to a HERS rater
- Design modeling information or engineering reports and construction plans
  - presented with the building permit application for review prior to issuing a building permit
- Building official will verify foundation and slab insulation prior to back filling

37

### **Building Code Requirements for Stretch Code**

- Building official will inspect framing prior to insulation and verify that all structural air sealing requirements are completed (wiring, plumbing and duct penetrations, and fire separation walls) and that duct sealing is complete
- Building official will inspect insulation and air sealing, and verify that the thermal bypass checklist requirements are complete
- The HERS rating report must be submitted prior to the final inspection
- HERS certification or a building commissioning report is required prior to issuing the certificate of occupancy

38

### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- •Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

39

41

Construction Costs: New Building Code vs. Stretch Code

40



### **Construction Costs Example: Residential**

- New Home approx. 1500 sf, 2 Stories, Full Basement
  - o Home meeting Prescriptive Requirements of the New Building Code Requirements (IECC 2009) earned a HERS rating of 82
    - ☐ Improvements Option 1: Add R5 rigid insulation to the exterior of the home, change the basement wall exterior insulation to R15, change the windows U value to 0.30 and put the ductwork under the attic insulation HERS 70

      ☐ Improvements Option 2: Change to a 92%
  - Improvements Option 2: Change to a 92% efficient furnace, 14 SEER condensing unit and an 80% efficient on demand gas fired water heater - HERS 67
  - After improvements: HERS 70 which meets the requirements of the Stretch Code.

HERS\* Index

More Energy

150

Existing
Homes

120

120

Standard
New Home

80

80

80

Exc. 2009

70

60

50

40

30

22

Zero Energy
Home

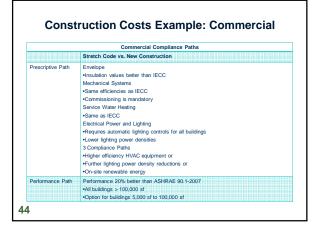
Less Energy

Less Energy

Study Title	Average Cost Premium %	Average Cost Premium \$/sf	Notes
Energy Star Case Study on Blue Hills, Kansas City, Missouri	1.6%	\$1.60	\$ 2,500 to \$ 5,000 construction cost premium including HERS rating \$ 160,000 total construction cost \$ 500 annual energy savings 1,540 sf homes

**Construction Costs Example: Residential** 

### 



### 

# Construction Costs Example: Commercial 0% to 8% or \$0/sf to almost \$14/sf. Why such a broad range? Variations in the types of buildings studied Different "green" design features incorporated in various projects Dates of the studies Caution! LEED NC and LEED H projects may include "green" design features not required by the new building code or stretch code and may be a cost premium

46

48

**Construction Costs Example: Commercial** • What's related to Energy efficiency? **Energy and Atmosphere Credit** Fundamental Building Systems Commissioning \$1.00/sf Optimize Energy Performance \$2.00/sf Assumes project is obtaining 2-5 points to get minimum of 20% improvement over ASHRAE 90.1 Includes energy modeling costs Renewable Energy \$3.00/sf **Enhances Commissioning** \$0.15/sf Total Cost Premium for EA Credits \$6.15/sf (3.5%)47

Energy Savings: New Building Code vs. Stretch Code

### What is the Energy Saving Target?

- · Prescriptive Approach
  - o No guarantee of energy savings
- Performance Based Approach
  - o Residential HERS rating requirements:
  - $\square$  65 for new homes  $\ge$  3,000 sf
  - □ 70 for new homes < 3,000 sf
  - $\square$  80 for renovations  $\ge$  2,000 sf
  - □ 85 for renovations < 2,000 sf
  - Commercial: 20% improvement over ASHRAE 90.1-2007

49

### What are Average Annual Energy Costs?

- Performance Based Approach
  - o HERS rating of 100 represents a typical new home
  - A HERS rating of 70 (Stretch Code requirement for a new home < 3,000 sf) represents a 30% improvement in energy consumption compared to a typical new home
  - What does a typical new home use for energy annually?

50

### What are Average Annual Energy Costs?

- U.S. Energy Information Administration
  - o 2005 Residential Energy Consumption Survey

    ☐ Average housing unit in New England uses \$0.98/sf
  - o Case Study: New Home (1,500 sf)

Cost of Energy Consumption (1,500 sf new home)				
	Annual Energy Cost (\$/sf)	Annual Energy Cost (\$)		
New England Average	\$0.98	\$1,470		
HERS 70	\$0.67	\$1,005		
Total Energy Savings	\$0.31	\$465		

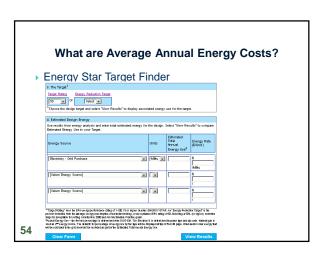
51

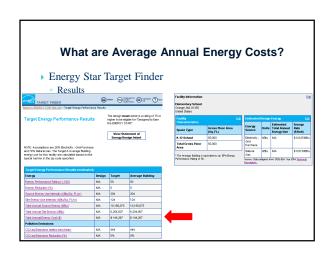
# What are Average Annual Energy Costs? • Energy Star Target Finder • Applicable to commercial projects • Will provide annual energy consumption cost vs. an average building of the same type and size | Will provide annual energy consumption cost vs. an average building of the same type and size

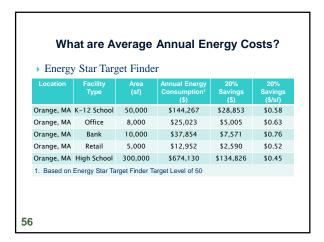
What are Average Annual Energy Costs?

• Energy Star Target Finder

| Comparison |

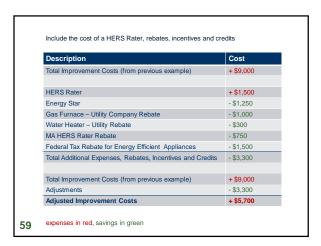


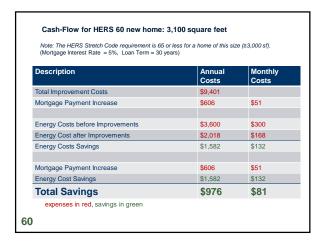


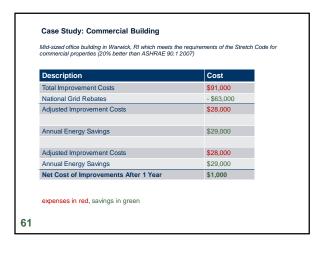


Summary of Cost Issues: New Building Code vs. Stretch Code









### STRETCH CODE WORKSHOP

- •Introduction, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Introduction to the Stretch Code, Jim Barry
- •The HERS Rating System, Mark Price
- •Stretch Code Requirements, Dan Hellyer
- •Building Code Requirements, Louis Hasbrouck
- •Projected Costs, Del Smith
- Closing Remarks, Chris Mason

62

# Summary of Benefits

### Town Benefits

- > Helps meet Northampton's energy and greenhouse goals
- > Reduce operating costs and energy use in Northampton buildings
- > Green Communities Funding can be used to:
  - Increase efficiency or add renewable energy to City buildings
  - Help offset the additional costs associated with the Stretch Code
  - · Support energy retrofits in existing buildings
- > Increases financial support through incentives, rebates and tax credits

### Realtor Benefits

> High efficiency is a marketable feature

### Economy & National Security

- > Every dollar saved on energy stays in the local economy
- Creates local jobs
- > Reduced dependence on foreign resources

63

# **Next Steps**

- > City Council holds a Public Hearing
- > Vote of City Council